54-1941

Troy, Ala., Messenger
May 20, 1941

PICTURE MARKS PROGRESS OF NEGRO RACE

A moving picture marking the progress of the negro race in education was shown at the Kiwanis meeting Monday evening. Special emphasis was given to progress in art. and many scenes were shown of the actual work being performed. Figures given along with the picture pointed out that one-tenth of the population of the United States was of negro origin, also it was shown that much progress has been made in recent years in education among the race along all lines. Practically all schools of higher learning for negroes are located in the South, where a majority of the negroes live.

The committee in charge was composed of Frank Stover and Montier Powell, and they were assisted in the projecting of the picture by Rev. Mark Lower.

A special invitation was extended to the ministers of the city to be present at the meeting Monday evening. Two ministers are members of the Kiwanis Club, Rev. James Graham and Rev. Mark Lower, both of whom were present, and two others were also present, Dr. Ross Dillon, president of the Ministers Association of Troy and pastor of the First Baptist Church, and the Rev. Stewart Melvin Baker, pastor of the Methodist Church, both of whom were introduced by Rev. James Graham, who is chairman of the committee to support churches, of the Kiwanis Club. Each responded in a spirit of friendliness and good will. Two ministers were unavoidably absent, Rev. W. M. Bush, pastor of Southside Baptist Church, and Rev. W. T. Grider, pastor of the Christian Church.

W. G. Hutchinson of Charlotte, N. C., was present as the guest of Sam Hanchey.

In the absence of the president and vice-president the meeting was presided over by Ewell Orme.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Author Here On Business

Florence Murray Tells of Book

Among outstanding visitors in Harlem these days is Miss Florence Murray, author and former school teacher, of Alexandria, Va., and Washington, D. C. She is busy consulting with her publishers, yet finds some time for the required daily reading that will make her book up-to-the-minute.

"The Negro Handbook," Miss Murray's work, is slated to come from press early in January, 1942. It is a manual of current facts, statistics and general information concerning the Negro in the United States. It can be used, according to her, as a reference book for writers; as a book of authority by foundations and organizations; as a ready source of background information, and as an "argument settler." Among the classifications it will deal with are sports, theatre, swing entertainers, musicians, etc.

Miss Murray, who was born into a printing family, says she never had aspirations to be a creative writer. She's the daughter of F. H. M. and Delilah Harris Murray, both originally of Ohio but who now live in Virginia. Howard University is her alma mater and Delta Sigma Theta is her sorority.

About three years ago Miss Murray commenced working on her handbook. To Mrs. Isadore Miles, English teacher at Armstrong High School in Washington, D. C., she gives credit for some of the planning and the early work. They are life-long friends.

The energetic Miss Murray taught school for four years at Virginia State College. Her vast newspaper experience includes that of having been correspondent for several publications and city editor for one. Not only did she take a year's course in proofreading and manuscript preparation at Mawson Editorial School in Boston, but worked as editorial clerk and proofreader at Howard University for four years.

"In my book," Miss Murray said, "I am emphasizing current events. The pattern I am using is much like that of The World Almanac."

Until her recent resignation, Miss Murry worked in the tenant selection office of the Alexandria Housing Authority. She's determined to make her book and its subsequent editions her life career. In Harlem Miss Murray can be found at the office of her publishers, Wendell Malliet & Company, 209 West 125th St. In Alexandria, Va., she lives at 813 Princess St.

Miss Florence Murray, well-known resident of Alexandria, Va., and Washington, D. C., who is here this week conferring with her publishers.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

DUSTIN' — off the — NEWS

—By—
LUCIUS C. HARPER

WE MADE PROGRESS FOR FIFTY YEARS, THEN WE SLUMPED

THE AMERICAN NEGRO is in the midst of a civilization that is intense and strenuous in its struggle for place and possession. Wealth honor and power are the ambitions that fire the people on to unremitting toil and keep them keyed to an alertness and vigilance that never cease.

Lucius Harper

No field that offers opportunity for profit is overlooked, no group is immune from this commercial attack. Competition for place and profit grows keener with the passing years.

It is to the credit, too, of the American white man that he is willing to pay the price of preparation, sacrifice, application and compromise to reach his goal. In competition with a mind that already holds the vantage ground in every imaginable field of endeavor, can the Negro in his race afford to lose anything that offers the least hope of contribution toward upbuilding?

* * *

WE THINK HE CANNOT. To our everlasting setback, there is probably more double-crossing, deliberate "knocking," mythical head-mauling, selfishness and suspicion of motives by Negroes of Negroes than there is in all other races combined.

Religion, politics, education, the professions, commerce and industry, all bear the same earmarks of dissension and discrediting that prove such a handicap to our welfare. Every factor that possesses the least ability to contribute profitably in any field of the Negro's well-being should be conserved. We have nothing to lose through such a program. Let us compromise, smooth out our differences, and use all of our material for the common cause. For, even if we do that, we shall still have need of more effort, room for more workers.

In the first fifty years of our racial freedom, we made our greatest progress. It was outstanding. It was substantial in comparison with the country's growth and progress. We produced men of note in every walk of life who enjoyed the respect and honor of the race at large. The reason for this was that we were united in aim, purpose and effort. The race was of one mind, linked together in solid movement toward one object—collective progress.

* * *

SINCE THEN we have made very little progress in comparison with our increase in numbers, and to the growth and progress of our contemporaries. Somebody has been kidding us about our "recent achievements," and we apparently have taken this kidding seriously.

Our accumulated wealth, prorated, would still leave us a poverty-stricken race. Our place in commerce and government is negligible, incommensurate with our population ratio. Why?

It is because we lack a racial mind, say, for instance, like the Jew, and concerted action toward any beneficial end, locally as well as nationally. Mistrust, distrust, jealousy, envy, selfishness:—These are the millstones around the Negro's neck. These prevent his progress. When will he shake them off?

* * *

THERE IS ENTIRELY too much talk from pulpit and press about other people's opposition to Negro welfare. As a matter of fact, the Negro has received more aid financially and otherwise from outside sources than any group in this American commonwealth. The truth is, other people are too busy about their own affairs today to think about the Negro.

If half this "protesting effort" were directed within and then transformed into cooperative action, with equal earnestness and sincerity, to center the race in unified movement toward a constructive program, we would soon accomplish miracles. Not until we face facts squarely, can we get anywhere in this highly competitive age.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

NEGRO ALMANAC

Oct 4-1941 Work

NEW YORK CITY, Oct. 2—Samuel L. Jackson has compiled an International Almanac on the Negro, published by the Vanguard Press, 2230 8th avenue, New York City.

54-1941

Christian Recorder
Philadelphia, Pa.

NEGRO GAINS REVIEWED

Gains made by the American Negro have exceeded the expectations of 75 years ago, but as yet he has not made anything like his full contribution to the culture of the country, Dr. Edwin R. Embree, president of the Julius Rosenwald Foundation, said last night. Dr. Embree spoke in the Friends Meeting House at Swarthmore under the auspices of the Somerville Lecture Fund.